

# ST. VINCENT WILLIAMSPORT HOSPITAL

## 2009 COMMUNITY BENEFIT REPORT

### OVERVIEW

St. Vincent Williamsport Hospital, located in Williamsport, Ind., is a 16-bed, critical access hospital serving Warren, Fountain, Benton and Vermillion counties. The hospital offers 24-hour emergency medical treatment, rural health and outpatient clinics, and hospital services to the community, while providing support for the overall health and well being of area citizens. St. Vincent Williamsport Hospital serves as a catalyst for the area's continued economic growth and development.

### FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

The financial information in this report was prepared in accordance with the reporting guidelines issued jointly by Catholic Health Association (CHA) in collaboration with VHA Inc. and with the Ascension Health community benefit reporting guidelines.

#### CATEGORY I

|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Traditional Charity Care | \$498,688 |
|--------------------------|-----------|

#### CATEGORY II

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Unpaid Cost of Public Programs | \$1,032,852 |
|--------------------------------|-------------|

#### CATEGORY III

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Other Programs and Services for the Poor | \$41,599 |
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#### CATEGORY IV

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Other Programs for the Broader Community | \$132,138 |
|--|-----------|

|               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|
| <b>TOTAL:</b> | <b>\$1,705,277</b> |
|---------------|--------------------|

*NOTE: St. Vincent Williamsport does not include Medicare in its total calculation.*

### TOUCHING LIVES

When the St. Vincent Williamsport health access worker visited the home of a St. Vincent patient, she learned that tight family finances were preventing the patient from taking the medication required to treat the patient's thyroid condition. Because the patient was employed and ineligible for Medicaid, the access worker assisted the patient in applying for the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) medical insurance and for financial assistance. Unfortunately, HIP denied the patient's application because she had insurance available to her through her employer – although she could not afford the monthly premium.

The access worker continued her quest to help this patient by approaching the hospital to request the assistance of a financial counselor. Arrangements were made for the patient to receive the care she needed from a physician specialist in Indianapolis at a much reduced cost. The health access worker's advocacy and persistence ensured that the patient was able to access the care she needed.

### COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

St. Vincent Williamsport Hospital leads a local community roundtable for Warren and Fountain counties. The group has representatives from schools, the learning center, the local economic development organization, social service agencies, and many other community organizations. The top initiatives identified in the most recent assessment included economic development, physical activity, mental health issues (drug abuse, domestic violence, counseling), greater community involvement, and better communication of services available in the county.



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#### INITIATIVES SPOTLIGHT

The following are just a few examples of the many community outreach programs supported by this ministry.

##### Health Access

The health access worker's role is to connect the hospital and the community by helping individuals address barriers to accessing health care and by referring them to other local resources as needed. To help individuals overcome barriers, the health access worker assists individuals with finding a medical home; provides assistance in applying for public programs such as Medicaid, food stamps and the Healthy Indiana Plan; and completes referrals to other forms of community-based assistance. The health access worker also advocates for clients with service providers and serves as a system navigator. During fiscal year 2009, the health access worker served 489 individuals, and completed 1,100 referrals to public and private programs. Additionally, the health access worker assisted individuals with accessing free or reduced-cost medications available through pharmacy assistance programs. A total of 448 medications totaling \$237,934.56 were provided in fiscal year 2009.

##### Health Careers Class Supports Breast Cancer Awareness Month

St. Vincent Williamsport Hospital supports a unique Health Careers Program based at the hospital to expose high school students to medical terminology, first aid and CPR. The program draws seniors from the bi-county school system: Covington, Southeast Fountain, Attica and Seegar, which are part of the West Central Indiana Health Careers program. Students spend time in clinical areas learning and exploring health care. Upon graduation, students earn six college credit hours toward their healthcare degree. Through their investment in this program, St. Vincent Williamsport is helping to ensure an adequate supply of trained health professionals to serve the community in future years. This year the students participated in Breast Cancer Awareness Month by building and entering a float in the Potawatomi Festival Parade. Students handed out flyers to women sharing information about breast cancer awareness and breast health.



##### Sports Physical Program

The St. Vincent Williamsport Sports Physical program brings injury and management care prevention to coaching staff and students at the local high school. The hospital views this as an important investment because student participation in physical activity can lead to a lifetime commitment to an active, healthy lifestyle. St. Vincent Williamsport assisted more than 644 local student athletes by providing these physicals worth approximately \$52,000 during the past fiscal year.

##### Bariatric & Orthopedic Seminars

In fiscal year 2009, Warren County Learning Center hosted seminars to educate the community regarding options for bariatric and orthopedic procedures. St. Vincent Williamsport Hospital was a sponsor of these community outreach events. With obesity at crisis levels throughout the state and country, bariatric surgery has been an important weapon in the fight against some of the poor health outcomes associated with the epidemic. St. Vincent Williamsport staff provided education and hand-out materials reviewing the range of options surrounding bariatric surgery and the monthly support group St. Vincent Williamsport hosts for bariatric surgery patients. St. Vincent Williamsport also sponsored an orthopedic seminar presented by an orthopedic surgeon. The seminar provided education on common injuries, including knee and wrist fractures, rotator cuff problems, and carpal tunnel syndrome. These educational seminars were provided free to the public.

